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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Office of the Assistant Chief of Staff, Intelligence  
Washington 25, D. C.

ACSI-CDCFR

6 May 1957

SUBJECT: Minutes of the Eighth Meeting of the Publication Procurement  
and Exploitation Conference, 10 April 1957 (U)

TO: See Distribution

1. (UNCLASSIFIED) The following personnel attended the meeting:

Mr R. W. Bauer (Chairman)  
Mr H. J. Dougherty  
Mr A. R. Kepler

CDCFR  
PREU  
FREA  
CIA  
NSA  
CCIA  
OCE/AMS  
OCE/AMS  
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OTEG  
ORD  
QMIA  
USASIA  
TCTIA

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Mr Z. Malbandian  
Mr F. T. Nicoletti  
Mr D. W. Platt  
Dr W. Frank  
Dr I. D. Dickman  
Mr M. Shapiro  
Mrs H. Mounts  
Mr H. Just  
Mr N. M. Cohen

2. (UNCLASSIFIED) The eighth meeting convened at 1030 hours,  
10 April 1957. Approval of the minutes of the seventh meeting was  
deferred to the next meeting.

3. (CONFIDENTIAL) Procurement and Dissemination of Chinese  
Communist Publications. [REDACTED] Acquisitions Branch, CIA  
Library, discussed CIA's procurement program for Chinese Communist  
publications:

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a. Based on the conclusions of SIE-27, an expansion in CIA's  
procurement of Chinese Communist publications was initiated toward the  
end of 1953. [REDACTED]

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[REDACTED] the procure-  
ment through Hong Kong was expanded and ultimately a full-time Publication  
Procurement Officer (PPO) was assigned to the consulate in Hong Kong;

UNABLE TO DETERMINE  
REGARDING DATE

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the Assistant Librarian of CIA visited the Far East to determine first-hand what capabilities existed for Chinese publication procurement; and university holdings in the U.S. were surveyed, although this did not prove to be as fruitful a source as had been anticipated. Sources of publications [redacted] were exploited by a full-time PPO [redacted]. To assist field collectors, a procurement guide for Chinese Communist newspapers, listing 300 titles, and another guide listing 400 periodical titles were prepared. These guides also indicated the extent of Washington holdings of each periodical.

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b. At present, the main procurement effort is in Hong Kong, and the second most important effort is [redacted]. The success of CIA's program is such that at least two periodicals from each province of China are being received with good regularity. Duplication of effort has also been greatly reduced (for example, personnel in Hong Kong and [redacted] are no longer competing with one another for hard-to-get items.)

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c. CIA Library now publishes an accession list for Chinese Communist monographs, known as China Book List, which lists the title, author, and issuing authority. Furthermore, these items are coded in the CIA Library files for easy reference. Publications of the Academia Sinica are coded specially. However [redacted] advised the conferees that requests levied upon CIA for the loan of important items may take as much as 6-8 months to fill if the publication is on loan to Foreign Documents Division for translation, and he therefore recommended that an additional copy of the publication be procured through the ARMLD Hong Kong. In this connection, he pointed out that most books and other monographs are readily available in Hong Kong at reasonable prices.

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d. In answer to questions concerning the operations of the PPO in Hong Kong, [redacted] stated that:

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(1) "Hot" items are usually purchased by the PPO without referral of the matter to Washington.

(2) Important items are sent via air pouch, and all other items are sent via sea pouch.

(3) The PPO does not procure through Macao, as this is not a lucrative source of Chinese Communist publications.

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(4) The PPO transmits monthly reports on his procurement activities which are in the form of State Department Despatches. He also prepares quarterly reviews of the procurement program in which significant developments are discussed. These despatches are not given general dissemination.

4. (CONFIDENTIAL) Review of the Periodical Procurement Program Established by Paragraph 18b, AR 381-25. The Chairman asked if the conferees had any comments to make concerning the paper which was circulated at the special meeting of the Publication Procurement and Exploitation Conference on 27 March. In general, the conferees concurred with the explanation of the periodical procurement program in the paper. The following matters pertaining to the program were discussed:

25X1A a. [REDACTED] mentioned that certain attaches had instructed periodical vendors to send publications directly to Washington rather than to the attache office. As a result, the publications had been held up by the customs authorities and receipt of the publications was considerably delayed. The Chairman stated that he was aware of this problem, but that it had not arisen in connection with the Par. 18b program.

b. Dr Frank asked whether availability lists had been received from the attache offices in South and Central America. The Chairman replied that not all the offices in Latin America had submitted lists in accordance with AR 381-25, but he expected that those offices which had not done so would send lists shortly. Dr Frank then expressed the belief that these lists would be of considerable value to his agency in obtaining publications containing intelligence information on the area.

c. The Chairman informed the conferees that Foreign Reports Section was preparing a complete list of periodicals procured under the program which would indicate the distribution of each title. Titles will be listed in accordance with the country of origin, but due to the lack of manpower, titles cannot be listed alphabetically under each country.

d. Mr Just recommended that a briefing on publication procurement be added to the SIS curriculum, and stated that the paper on the periodical procurement program could be used as a basis. The Chairman agreed that this was highly desirable and added that he believed

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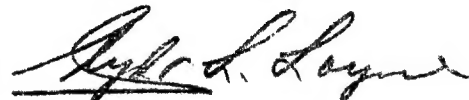
one of the most important functions of such a briefing would be to impress upon the attache personnel the importance of publications as a source of intelligence information. Mr Just stated that he believed the briefing should cover potential sources of publications and a list of these sources should be included in the paper on the periodical procurement program.

e. The opinion was expressed that the periodical procurement program and publication procurement in general suffer largely from lack of interest or activity on the part of attache personnel.

5. (UNCLASSIFIED) The next meeting will be held at 1000 hours, Thursday, 9 May 1957, in Pentagon Room 2C468. The remaining items on the agenda for the eighth meeting will be discussed. [REDACTED] Far East Branch, Foreign Documents Division, CIA, currently on active duty with Foreign Reports Section, will be present in the event the conferees have any questions concerning exploitation of publications from the Far East.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF, INTELLIGENCE

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for U. P. WILLIAMS  
Colonel, GS  
Chief, Collection Division

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